

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 / An apparatus comprising:

2 a computer executable for processing a file of a first file type, comprising:

3 a first module that determines whether the file includes a first content
4 type, the first module performing a first function if the file includes the first
5 content type, and

6 a second module that determines whether the file includes a second
7 content type, the second module performing a second function different from the
8 first function if the file includes the second content type; and

9 a HTTP client that receives files of the first type and a second type from a
10 network, the HTTP client causing the computer executable to process files of the
11 first type.

1 2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first content type includes a set of
2 instructions and the first module executes the instructions.

1 3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the apparatus is associated with a computer
2 processor and the computer executable further comprises an extraction module,
3 the instructions causing the extraction module to extract information from the
4 computer.

1 4. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the computer executable further comprises a
2 third module for transmitting the extracted information by generating a HTTP
3 request containing the information and sending the HTTP request over the
4 network.

1 5. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the extracted information includes habitat
2 information.

1 6. The apparatus of claim 5 wherein the habitat information includes at least one of a
2 machine ID, a storage ID, an Ethernet address, and a processor ID.

- 1 7. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the instructions cause the first module to install
2 computer software on a computer associated with the apparatus.
- 1 8. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the computer software is an updated version of
2 the computer executable for processing a file.
- 1 9. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second functions
2 includes displaying at least a portion of the information contained within the file.
- 1 10. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second functions
2 includes uncompressing at least a portion of the information contained within the
3 file.
- 1 11. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second functions
2 includes storing at least a portion of the information contained within the file.
- 1 12. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the computer executable further comprising an
2 HTTP module that generates a hypertext transfer protocol method for sending the
3 extracted information over a network.
- 1 13. The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the method is either a PUT or a GET method.
- 1 14. A method for processing a file comprising:
2 receiving the file and information about the type of the file;
3 determining a computer executable associated with the file based on the
4 information about the type of the file; and
5 causing the computer executable to process the file, with processing further
6 comprising:
7 determining whether the file includes a first content type, the computer
8 executable performing a first function if the file includes the first content type;
9 and
10 determining whether the file includes a second content type, the
11 computer executable performing a second function different from the first
12 function if the file includes the second content type.

1 15. The method of claim 14, further comprising:

2 generating a HTTP request containing information and sending the
3 information by sending the HTTP request over a network.

1 16. The method of claim 14, wherein the first content type includes a set of
2 instructions and the first function executes the instructions.

1 17. The method of claim 16, wherein the method is associated with a computer, the
2 instructions causing the extraction module to extract information from the
3 computer.

1 18. The method of claim 17, wherein the extracted information includes habitat
2 information.

1 19. The method of claim 18, wherein the habitat information includes at least one of a
2 machine ID, a storage ID, and an Ethernet address.

1 20. The method of claim 16, wherein the instructions cause the computer executable
2 to install computer software on the computer.

1 21. The method of claim 20, wherein the computer software is an updated version of
2 the computer executable.

1 22. The method of claim 14, wherein at least one of the first and second functions
2 includes displaying at least a portion of the information contained within the file.

1 23. The method of claim 14, wherein at least one of the first and second functions
2 includes uncompressing at least a portion of the information contained within the
3 file.

1 24. The method of claim 14, wherein at least one of the first and second functions
2 includes storing at least a portion of the information contained within the file.

1 25. The method of claim 15 wherein the method is either a PUT or a GET method.

- 1 26. The method of claim 14, wherein the file contains both the first content type and
- 2 the second content type, the computer executable processing the file to perform
- 3 both the first and the second function.

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